




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

NOV 15 2010

OFFICE OF  
WATER

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Request for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board review of the Methods and Approaches for Deriving Numeric Criteria for Nitrogen/Phosphorus Pollution in Florida's Estuaries, Coastal Waters, and Southern Inland Flowing Waters

**FROM:** Ephraim S. King, Director, Office of Science and Technology  
Office of Water 

**TO:** Stephanie Sazone, Designated Federal Official  
USEPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office

This memorandum is to request a review from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) of proposed methods and approaches to derive numeric criteria for nitrogen/phosphorus pollution in Florida estuaries, coastal waters, and southern inland flowing waters.

On January 14, 2009, EPA made a determination<sup>1</sup> that "new or revised water quality standards for nutrients in the form of numeric nutrient criteria are necessary in the State of Florida to meet the requirements of the CWA (CWA section 303(c)(2)(A) and 40 CFR § 131.11(a)(1))."

To support EPA's establishment of numeric nutrient criteria, EPA has developed a document entitled: "Methods and Approaches for Deriving Numeric Criteria for Nitrogen/Phosphorus Pollution in Florida's Estuaries, Coastal Waters, and Southern Inland Flowing Waters." This document describes methods and approaches that EPA is considering for the derivation of numeric criteria to protect Florida estuaries, coastal waters, and southern inland flowing waters from nitrogen/phosphorus pollution. In addition, the document describes the approach EPA is considering for developing downstream protection values (DPVs) for Florida streams to ensure the attainment and maintenance of downstream water quality standards.

EPA is submitting the attached documents listed below for a SAB review by the Nutrient Criteria Review Panel to assist us in ensuring that the numeric criteria derived have a strong scientific basis. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Behl, Director of the Health and Ecological Criteria Division at (202)566-0788.



Attachments:

1. Charge to the Science Advisory Board (SAB) Nutrient Criteria Review Panel
2. Methods and Approaches for Deriving Numeric Criteria for Nitrogen/Phosphorus Pollution in Florida's Estuaries, Coastal Waters, and Southern Inland Flowing Waters."

U.S. EPA determination letter from Benjamin Grumbles to Mike Sole, January 14, 2009, <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/rules/fl-determination20090114.pdf>